responsibility of writing history, you cannot do so honestly without allocating blame as well as praise, where either is due to the men who take a leading part in the events which make that history. And the right and duty of criticism or approval for their contribution does not cease with their death. Warriors are in that respect in the same category as politicians.

Apart from that general consideration, there are at least two imperative reasons why the facts should be told now and not later. It has been sagely remarked by Macaulay that the knowledge of past events " is valuable only as it leads us to form just calculations with respect to the future." The atmosphere of the world—East and West—is charged with the inter-national suspicions, rivalries and fears that have always hitherto ended in war. Nations are arming for war. Every nation throughout the world—almost without exception—is increasing its armaments. Every effort to arrest this menacing expansion of the mechanism of wholesale slaughter has failed. Nations with already enormous armaments are increasing and improving them. Formidable nations that were disarmed, are re-arming. The peoples are making preparations for war in defiance of treaties they signed, and they are doing so with an urgent anxiety that can only be explained by a general fear that war is impending. There is no confidence in any quarter that peace can be long preserved. In

these circum-
stances it is essential first of all that nations should
know, before they declare war, to what they are
committing themselves. All nations alike enter into
a war with an equal confidence in ultimate victory
for their banners. Defeat is always a surprise to the
vanquished. Elements they had not realised, defects
in their own equipment, resources or qualities, or